

In accordance with Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) in conjunction with the general management plan. The EIS will describe the affected environment, propose alternative proposals, assess impacts of the alternatives, and propose mitigation measures for the impacts. After considering public comments, the National Park Service will memorialize its final decision in a formal record of decision.

2. Scoping Process

An initial public meeting concerning the proposed action will be held at the following date, time and location: Wednesday, May 14, 1997 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Pedernales Electric Cooperative (PEC) Headquarters Auditorium, 200 Avenue F, Johnson City, Texas 78636.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain information or provide comments other than at the meetings, please contact Leslie Starr Hart, Superintendent, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, P.O. Box 329, Johnson City, Texas 78636. The responsible official for this EIS is John E. Cook, Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service, 12795 West Alameda Parkway, P.O. Box 25287, Denver Colorado 80225-0287.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Representatives from the planning team will be present to receive comments and answer planning questions at the public meeting. The public is encouraged to attend and submit verbal and/or written comments on the proposed general management plan/EIS. Comments may also be mailed to the Regional Director at the address above.

The draft and final general management plan/environmental impact statement will be distributed to all known interested parties and appropriate agencies. Full public participation by Federal, State, and local agencies as well as other concerned organizations and private citizens is invited during this scoping process and throughout the preparation of the document.

Dated: April 24, 1997.

Leslie Starr Hart,
Superintendent.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks; Notice of Intent to Prepare Environmental Impact Statement for a Wilderness Management Plan

SUMMARY: In accordance with § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL91-190), Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks (Parks) are initiating an environmental impact analysis process to identify and assess potential impacts of alternative strategies for future management of the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness within these parks. Through this process the Parks will identify and analyze a range of alternatives in order to evaluate options for achieving wilderness stewardship objectives while accommodating visitors and authorized users, protecting cultural and natural resources, and providing for legally mandated management requirements.

Background

The Parks desire to revise and consolidate current wilderness-related plans such as the 1986 Backcountry Management Plan and the 1986 Stock Use and Meadow Management Plan, incorporating management direction provided in the California Wilderness Act of 1984 which designated 736,980 acres as the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness. Toward that end, seven public scoping sessions have been held prior to publication of this Notice. These sessions were held in California, during 1996 on May 28 (Visalia), June 13 (Clovis), June 18 (Three Rivers), July 9 (San Francisco), July 16 (Los Angeles), July 25 (Bishop), and October 5 (Sacramento). All suggestions and comments received during these sessions (and written information received by mail during this time) have aided the Parks in preliminary identification of issues and concerns to be addressed in preparing a draft environmental impact statement and wilderness management plan (DEIS/WMP). These comments will be retained in the administrative record throughout this planning process.

Comments

Notice is hereby given that the National Park Service will prepare a DEIS/WMP document. At this time, all interested individuals, organizations, and agencies wishing to provide additional comments or suggestions should address them to the

Superintendent, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, CA 93271. All such new information should be postmarked no later than sixty (60) days from the date of publication of this Notice. All respondents will be included in timely project updates.

Decision Process

The subsequent availability of the DEIS/WMP will be announced by formal Notice and via local and regional news media. The DEIS/WMP is anticipated to be completed and available for public review during fall, 1998. In addition, it is anticipated that several public hearings will be held; details will be included in the Notice of Availability and also will be publicized via local and regional news media. The final environmental impact statement and wilderness management plan document (FEIS/WMP) is anticipated to be completed approximately one year later. Notice of the Record of Decision will be published in the **Federal Register** not sooner than thirty (30) days after distribution of the FEIS/WMP documents. The responsible official is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Questions or new requests to be placed on the DEIS/WMP mailing list compiled for distributing timely project updates may be directed to the attention of the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness Coordinator at the above address or via telephone at (209) 565-3137.

Dated: April 15, 1997.

Patricia L. Neubacher,
Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region,
National Park Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations

Nominations for the following properties being considered for listing in the National Register were received by the National Park Service before April 19, 1997. Pursuant to § 60.13 of 36 CFR Part 60 written comments concerning the significance of these properties under the National Register criteria for evaluation may be forwarded to the National Register, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington,